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P-Alsop, Stewart

P-Alsop, Joseph

Stewart Alsop Comes Across on the Mayflower Flap

By Stewart Mayflower

Stewart Mayflower is the pen name of Stewart Alsop, the distinguished Washington columnist and brother of Joseph Alsop, the distinguished Washington columnist.

Mr. Mayflower here reviews the play by Art Buchwald, distinguished Washington columnist.

has appeared previously, in the Buchwald column, as Joe Wallstop. Joe Wallstop was genuinely funny, and the real Wallstop winced a bit, but laughed with the rest of Washington.

Joe Mayflower is not funny. As the New York Times reviewer noted, he is "poison-

ously stupid and arrogant."

No one who knows him seems likely to have a good run in New York, for two would deny that the real reasons. First, it is by Art Mayflower occasionally dis-Buchwald, who is a very plays what Winston Churchill called "a little honest fashionable farce, based on arrogance." But stupid?

the fashionable notion that communism is a figment of not only stupid. He is a the CIA's imagination, and hissing villain, a buffoon that whatever goes wrong with blood on his hands. He in the world is the fault of wholly lacks the qualities inane American diplomats that have made a vast col- and cretinous American gen-lection of friends—includ-erals. This notion is particu- ing both John and Robert larly fashionable in New Kennedy—for the real May- York, and the play will thus flower. He also lacks the give fashionable New York- qualities—notably the cou- ers an opportunity to enjoy rage to be unfashionable— their laughs while feeling that have made Joe May- virtuously superior to those flower a great reporter. It fascist-minded bunglers in Washington. is not surprising that Joe

As comedy, the play is Mayflower should emerge, about on a level with the in Buchwald's fashionable television serial "McHale's farce, as a caricature. It is Navy" (which is sometimes surprising — for Art Buch- pretty funny). As political wald has always seemed an satire, it has about as much amiable fellow—that the relationship to the political caricature should be so reality as McHale's navy has bitchy.

to the Navy. But the laughs are there all right, and some of them are very good laughs —Buchwald being Buchwald, that is no surprise.

The surprise, to this reviewer (no doubt prejudiced by reason of consanguinity),

was the character of the protagonist, Joseph Mayflower. Mayflower is a bloody-minded columnist who succeeds, with the help of an insane diplomat and a cretinous general, in starting a war in the Oriental paradise of Nonamara. Joe Mayflower

P-Buchwald, Art .
S.O.C. 4.01.4 Sheep on
the Runway

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